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PATENT

Serial No. 10/520,199

Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on December 29, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electronic circuit, comprising:

a plurality of input/output (I/O) nodes for connecting the electronic circuit to at least a further electronic circuit ~~via interconnects;~~

a test unit for testing the ~~interconnects~~ electronic circuit in a test mode of the electronic circuit, the test unit comprising a combinatorial circuit having a plurality of inputs and an output, the combinatorial circuit implementing an exclusive logic function;

the I/O nodes being logically connected to the test unit in the test mode, wherein:

a first selection of the I/O nodes is arranged to carry respective input signals and is connected to the plurality of

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inputs of the combinatorial circuit; and

a second selection of the I/O nodes comprises a first I/O node and is arranged to carry respective output signals, the first I/O node being coupled to the output of the combinatorial circuit; and

~~characterized in that~~ the second selection of I/O nodes further comprises a second I/O node that is coupled to an I/O node from the first selection of I/O nodes in the test mode via a connection that ~~bypasses the combinatorial circuit~~ includes at least one of a buffer and an inverter.

2. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The electronic circuit as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second selection of I/O nodes further comprises a third I/O node being coupled to a further I/O node from the first selection of I/O nodes in the test mode via a further connection that bypasses the combinatorial circuit.

3. (Currently amended) An electronic circuit ~~as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that~~, comprising:
a plurality of input/output (I/O) nodes for connecting the

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electronic circuit to at least a further electronic circuit;

a test unit for testing the electronic circuit in a test mode of the electronic circuit, the test unit comprising a combinatorial circuit having a plurality of inputs and an output, the combinatorial circuit implementing an exclusive logic function;

the I/O nodes being logically connected to the test unit in the test mode, wherein:

a first selection of the I/O nodes is arranged to carry respective input signals and is connected to the plurality of inputs of the combinatorial circuit;

a second selection of the I/O nodes comprises a first I/O node and is arranged to carry respective output signals, the first I/O node being coupled to the output of the combinatorial circuit;

the second selection of I/O nodes further comprises a second I/O node that is coupled to an I/O node from the first selection of I/O nodes in the test mode via a connection that bypasses the combinatorial circuit; and

at least one of the second I/O node is coupled to the I/O node from the first selection of I/O nodes via a buffer circuit and the third I/O node is coupled to the further I/O node from the first

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selection of I/O nodes via an inverter.

4. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The electronic circuit as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that the electronic circuit comprises~~ further comprising a test control node, the electronic circuit being arranged to switch to the test mode responsive to the reception of a test control signal on the test control node.

5. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The electronic circuit as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that the electronic circuit comprises~~ further comprising a main unit being logically connected to the I/O nodes in a functional mode of the electronic circuit, the main unit being arranged to bring the electronic circuit into the test mode upon receipt of a test control signal in a form of a predefined bit pattern through at least a subset of the first selection of I/O nodes.

6. (Currently amended) An electronic circuit arrangement, comprising:

an electronic circuit as claimed in claim 4 or 5; and

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a further electronic circuit connected +
~~the electronic circuit having interconnects~~ with the
further electronic circuit;

~~characterized in that wherein~~ the further electronic circuit
is arranged to provide the electronic circuit with the test control
signal and to provide the first selection of I/O nodes with test
patterns for testing the ~~interconnects~~ electronic circuit.

7. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The electronic circuit arrangement
as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the further
electronic circuit is arranged to receive test result data from the
second selection of I/O nodes.

8. (Currently amended) A method for testing ~~interconnects~~
~~between an electronic circuit and a further electronic circuit~~, the
electronic circuit comprising:

a plurality of input/output (I/O) nodes for connecting
the electronic circuit to the a further electronic circuit ~~via the~~
~~interconnects~~;

a test unit for testing the ~~interconnects~~ electronic

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circuit in a test mode of the electronic circuit, the test unit comprising a combinatorial circuit having a plurality of inputs and an output, the combinatorial circuit implementing an exclusive logic function;

the I/O nodes being logically connected to the test unit in the test mode, wherein:

a first selection of the I/O nodes is arranged to carry respective input signals and is connected to the plurality of inputs of the combinatorial circuit; and

a second selection of the I/O nodes comprises a first I/O node and is arranged to carry respective output signals, the first I/O node being coupled to the output of the combinatorial circuit;

the method comprising the ~~steps-acts~~ of:

logically connecting the test unit to the ~~interconnects~~ electronic circuit;

putting test data on the ~~interconnects to the electronic circuit~~ by the further electronic circuit; and

receiving test result data through the first I/O node;

~~characterized in that the method further comprises the step of~~

receiving further test result data through a second I/O

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node from the second selection of I/O nodes, the second I/O node being coupled to an I/O node from the first selection of I/O nodes in the test mode via a connection that ~~bypasses the combinatorial circuit~~ includes at least one of a buffer and an inverter.

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